

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [920] 160M QRP
Message-ID: <9512051559.AA15280@garnet.inel.gov>

While everyone else was eagerly awaiting the Sprint on Sunday, I was working the 160M contest QRP -- talk about being a glutton for punishment!! Had the 20 DB attenuator in the QRP+ on the whole time to keep the receiver from going up in smoke! (Figured that anyone that could hear me I could hear with the attenuator in OK). With time out on Friday evening for a salmon BBQ and watching 20/20, and time out on Saturday eve to watch Deep Space 9 and go to a square dance, I still managed to make 77 Q's, work 27 sections and one DX (an XE2). However, a local QRPer with a bit more dedication managed about 130 Q's... oh well, you can't win 'em all!

If you haven't tried 160M QRP, give it a shot.

72, Larry.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [915] 30M Explorer II
Message-ID: <9512051559.AA15277@garnet.inel.gov>

Has anyone received their 30M kit yet?? Last I heard, OHR was waiting for some crystals or something.

72, Larry.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Wynn C C <wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>
Subject: [886] 4:1 QRP Balun Part 1 of 2
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951204201654.20741B-100000@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>

4:1 balun for QRP (Ruthroff Voltage Balun) Part 1 of 2

Material:

(2) T-80-2 Iron Powder Toroids, Red. (Oak Hills Research, 10 for \$3.60)

40 inches of blue 30 gage wire wrap wire. (Radio Shack-278-503)

40 inches of white 30 gage wire wrap wire. (RS-278-502)

BNC panel jack, or substitute your favorite (RS-278-105)

2 Binding posts, or substitute your favorite, Pkg. of 4 (RS-274-661)

Enclosure 3 1/4" x 2 1/8" x 1 1/8", plenty of room (RS-270-230)

Stack (2) T-80-2 powdered iron toroid cores together. Use super glue, or some other means to hold the two cores together. The powdered iron cores should be tumbled smooth during manufacture so no protective wrapping is necessary. You may want to wrap the cores with tape to stabilize the wire during the winding operation. I did not use tape but took extra care and time on the winding.

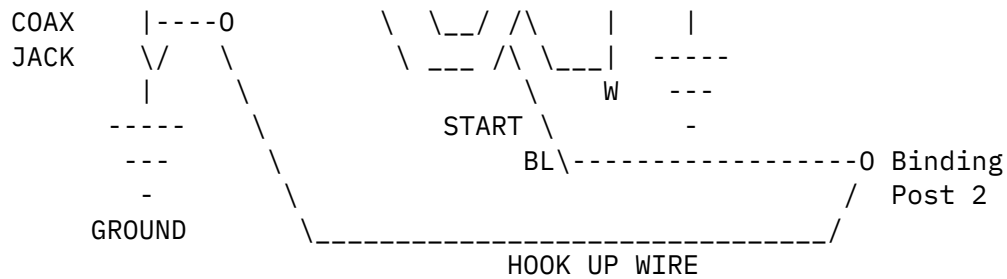
Using two colors of wire helps keep track of the connections after winding. Wind *23* evenly spaced bifilar turns, white wire parallel and adjacent to blue wire. That's *23* white turns, *23* blue turns, white and blue wound simultaneously. Leave an approx. 4 inch tail at the start and finish of the windings. Space the turns so that the distance on the core between the start turn and the end turn is approx. 1/4 inch. Drill the holes and mount the jack and binding posts on the enclosure.

Cut short and strip the white wire on the starting pair tail and the blue wire on the ending pair tail. Leave enough to twist together, and solder to a common ground strap. I used a 3 inch long piece of solder wick braid for the ground strap. Any kind of hook up wire will do. The wire wrap insulation is tough, so use an Exacto knife or razor blade to strip the wire before soldering. Trim to fit and solder the blue tail of the start turn to one of the binding posts, likewise the white tail of the ending turn to the other binding post. Take care not to nick the copper when stripping the insulation.

Using a piece of insulated hook up wire, solder one end to the center conductor of the BNC Jack, the other end to one of the binding posts. Now one of the binding posts will share a connection with the wire from the BNC center conductor and a wire from the balun winding. The other end of the ground strap is soldered to the shell of the BNC panel jack. Some ASCII art is attached in part 2 that shows the wiring connections. If the wiring arrangement is still unclear, consult the literature on baluns.

73,

C. C. (Clay) Wynn N4A0X
wyn@ornl.gov



73,
C. C. (Clay) Wynn N4AOX
wyn@ornl.gov

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Bob Levine <levine@mc.com>
Subject: [896] admin requests
Message-ID: <9512051419.AA09024@fugu>

I lost the email address for administrative requests for the reflector, could someone please email me the address for subscribe/unsubscribe requests.

Thanks

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [909] Backstay antenna
Message-ID: <M573779.001.412v0.1.951205180854Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBB/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

For Warren Lewis, AD4ZE

One of our local club members has his backstay set up as his antenna. Maybe 45 ft long. Due to the press of time before sailing, he had a local marine communications tech come in and do the job, but it could have been done by anyone.

The backstay ends at an insulator about 4 feet above the stern. The tech ran coax from the feed end of the backstay into the stern housing above the rudder post. Grounded the shield there to the boat's ground system, plus ran more wide copper strap to keep the ground lead impedance as low as possible.. Used an automatic tuner so doesn't have to have it in the cabin.

Seems to be working fine. Good communications back to the SF Bay area from Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, on 75m and 20m.

Only problem is at sea on autopilot, has to stay off 20m. Boat goes in circles when key down!. Ok when autopilot turned off. Autopilot box right next to tuner!.

72, BobT N6WG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [894] Cascade-Section One Check
Message-ID: <01HYFWCXRYQ494GAKJ@tntech.edu>

Howdi,

not sure if I posted.. but finally just listened to good advise.. took the Cascade out of the envelop... did a rough sort of parts..and started on the kit. Got done with the first section.. was kinda neat building by section.. after many kits of stuffing the board by part types.. this should be very interesting.. in a project like this.. it is reassuring to know that one section works before going on.

First.. think it should be know problem if people who haven't started just take Dougs errata sheet and make the changes in the manual (and there aren't really that many).. then download the excellent file that is a consolodation of the rest of the suggestions and minor mods.. I plan on just building and asking for help where I need it.

Oh, by the way .. need some advise from those who have successfully built up the kit. After the first section the check is to put in the mike and check the voltage at Q3 collector for 8 volts with Tx button pressed. I did this and find I get 8.15 without it pressed and 7.46 with it pressed. Now I admitt. that I don't really understand all this electronic stuff..but I did attempt to trace the circuit.. it appeared that there is 12 volts going to U3 and 8.15 volts coming out.. which I believe is correct.. this 8.15 on my board is fed to Q3.. is the voltage drop on TX correct.. don't want to proceed unless I got this correct.

thanks..

73

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [898] CQ TP
Message-ID: <1995Dec05.094115.8609@abs.net>

The CQ TP Contest is an annual contest sponsored by Telephone Pioneers of America. It is mostly People who worked for the Bell System in years gone by. Most who had worked for one of the Telephone Operating Companies for twenty years or more. (The number or years has changed since the beginning). It also included those who were a part of the manufacturing arm known as Western Electric in the old days. A T & T Technologies in more recent times. Who knows what they will be called after the new Divisions are created in the next year or so. I must be slipping, I did not even realize that it was coming up. I seem to be missing more and more these days. I forgot all about the QRP ARCI Holiday Sprint as well..
K3TKS, Customer Systems Engineer, AT&T GBCS Federal Systems (13yrs),
Formerly PBX Systems Technician with C&P Telephone Company (18yrs).

QRP DX TU (C)1986 Danny Gingell,K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: KE3FL@delphi.com
Subject: [928] Diode/Fuse Rig protection
Message-ID: <01HYG9KHYLTU9LZCSK@delphi.com>

Guys, The circuit with a diode and fuse is used in the MFJ 90XX rigs.

Similar to: Bill Acito 04-Dec-1995 1135 <acito@asdg.UNET.dec.com>

In MFJ:

```
+ -----+-----[|===|]----- + input
          |               fuse
          |
Rig       [-] Power Diode (rated higher than fuse)
          [^]
          |
```

- -----+----- -

There were only two problems with it, 1) the "fuse" was a thin trace on the PC board, and 2) the fuse was rated 1amp, as was the fuse. SO when I hooked it up backwards (on field day, of course) it blew both the fuse & diode. Once I saw the error of my ways I jumped over the burned out parts & was back on the air for our natural power QSO points. I then used a 3AMP diode and a real fuse to put it back together. I checked it out twice on purpose with no ill effects to the rig or diode. I will be installing the same design in the 40-40 kit I'm building. It's cheap, easy, works, and no voltage drop.

gug-luk & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
:)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: PB13128@deere.com
Subject: [943] DOCUMENT 12/05/95 14:22:06
Message-ID: <DACDXX21.PB13128.290722140095339FDACDXX21@TCP30.DX.DEERE.COM>

Subject: QRP in the ARRL 160 Meter Contest

For those of you that didn't operate, you should have, for those of you that did, I hope you had as much fun as I did!

Before I post my results I'll pose the following question, it sorta goes with the QRP minimalist thread from several days ago, how do you obtain antenna gain on 160 meters? Remember we're dealing with 1/2 wave dipole antenna that are about 258 feet long. Or is 160 the only real amateur minimalist band?

Well there is a way. Antenna theory says that 1/2 dipoles arranged in a sloper configuration can exhibit up to 4 dB gain. The trick is finding a support structure tall enough to be the center support for the antennas.

I used a grain elevator, about 230 feet tall, to be my center support. 1/2 dipoles were then arranged in a sloper configuration pointing NE, SE, SW and NW. It required a 300 foot run of RG-213 from the radio to the antenna

switch on top of the elevator. No special pains were taken to match the coax lengths from the switch to each antenna, (I'll only carry theory so far!), but they averaged about 100 feet each.

End results--the antennas worked like gang-busters. I was able to hold a frequency and run stations for 25 to 30 minutes on more than one occasion. Switching antennas would make a station right on the edge of the noise level pop up a couple of s units and become easily workable.

My goal was to break the Midwest Division QRP record for the ARRL 160 meter contest. Per Billy Lunt at the ARRL the existing record was set in 1992 by K0RSL and was 16,836 points.

My results: 456 Q's and 61 multipliers for a total of 55,815 points

Station location: Iowa Section

Equipment: Kenwood TS-850SAT (battery power) and MFJ DSP filter.

Logging: 8088 laptop running NA, also battery powered

Antennas: 4 half-wave slopers as described above.

72,

Pete, NN9K (QRP-L # 5)

pb13128@deere.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>

Subject: [890] Explorer II (20M) on the air

Message-ID: <199512051304.IAA86479@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Oh well, I wasn't going to be a "me too" but I guess I will anyway. My Explorer II arrived last Wednesday. And I'm ashamed to say it, since I joked with a couple of people about getting "sick" for a couple of days to stay home and build it, but -- honest guys; on my qrp-l number I swear -- I really, really got hammered by cold/flu on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. So

while staying warm and drinking plenty of fluids I built my radio.

First, I would caution that it's not smart to build when swacked on cold remedy. I had to de-solder a couple of parts because of that (and worse, I had to get them installed in the *right* spot after having trimmed the leads.) But it all went smoothly otherwise.

The instructions could use a little polishing, but it wasn't hard to figure out what was wanted. Doing a full inventory and sort before starting construction is always a wise thing and prevents sudden panic attacks when a component has been mis-specified in one part of the instructions (the resistor in the band pack springs to mind.)

I was a little put off by two things. One was the let-pin-one-fall-where-it-may IC layout. I realize it is one tight little board and maybe it's only meaningful to digital designers, but I'm used to all the bugs facing in the same direction. The other thing was that there were no intermediate tests. Just build it and put power to it. They don't even ask you to measure the current draw on power up. On the plus side there was no problem -- I built it, plugged it in and it worked great.

Alignment was tedious but uneventful. I was pleased they included an alignment tool for the inductor but, since they did, I was surprised there wasn't one for adjusting the trim caps. (Or am I the only one who uses a plastic tool to set the trimmers? I guess nobody ever told me I should -- I just do.) I had a momentary panic when I went to check the transmitter and got milliwatts out (all the mysterious "my transmit section doesn't work" messages I've ever seen on the net came floating to the surface) but a quick twist of the trimmer and I had three solid watts.

Once set up, the radio is great. It pulls out signals that my TS-440 can't hear on the same antenna. It does have an annoying ear-killing pop when electrical things switch (like my furnace ignition, fridge or even the DSP filter.) It doesn't seem to have enough audio drive to make a Timewave DSP 59+ happy. And it seems fussy about headphones -- it *clearly* works better with my Kenwood headphones than my Heil headset.

But fun? Golllllll-eeee! It's great to listen to. Transmit? Well now I'm embarrassed...I've heard it over the dummy load but until I went to use it, it never even occurred to me that I don't own an antenna tuner that isn't built-in to a radio. On the naked feed line it's a 4:1 mismatch at best on 20. So I have to build something else before I transmit.

It's always somethin'

>>>==>PStJTT

=====

Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logiccraft Information Services	Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road	QRP-L: 215 (was hoping for 666)
Nashua N.H. 03063	Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: John Dundas <ab6dg@netcom.com>
Subject: [905] Explorer II for 30 m. delayed
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512050918.A15755-0100000@netcom16>

Just talked with Dick at OHR, wondering if my order had been lost, since many others already have received and built the Ex. II from the group order.

Dick advised that no 30 meter versions had been shipped yet, because he has not yet received the crystals. He expects they will be received "any day now," and kit shipping will begin at that time.

Lord, give me patience, and please give it to me right now!

72/3 de John AB6DG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [881] FAR boards
Message-ID: <199512050432.EAA05102@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

In reference to the postings on circuit boards and quality.

1. Always check both sides of a board with a magnifying glass of the highest power you can afford. I use a 8X loupe like used by photographs to examine negatives. It is worth the trouble. Do this before you put a single part on the board. PLEASE. Pretty please. Pretty please with sugar on it.

I have never had any problems with boards from NorCal, OHR, NN1G, ...

My MXM 30M XCVR, which has a PC board made by FAR Circuits did have one land

with a very clean break which I bridged with a lead clipped from a resistor.

I would never build any kit without first checking the board. It does take time up front, but it is a heck of lot cheaper than coming back later with sockets, parts, etc. covering up hard to see places. Don't rush this process.

2. Do this in bright light.
3. Use no more than 25W iron with a small tip. We are not assembling a tank and too much heat will stress parts, IC's, and the board itself. Think of physics. Heat kills.
4. There is no time limit and there are no rewards for the best time. Especially if the rig doesn't work.

Just a few hints from someone who has built a couple of kits this year.

dit dit de k5fo/5 (houston/clear lake,TX)

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "Norman E. Fink" <norm@uu1238.flowerslabs.com>
Subject: [924] Florida Fox Report
Message-ID: <9512051519.AA19443@flowerslabs.com>

No FOX heard in Florida Monday night. Did hear lots of stations calling and working him, but no AA4XX!

Norm, K2NF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [919] FOX Hunt Stories
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951205105229.218B-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 5 Dec 1995, Jeff Gold wrote:

> <SNIP> Nice Fox Hunt story deleted

I know this causes some grief to a few of the list readers but I really

enjoy reading the longer "stories" of Fox Hunters. They give me a glimpse into the personality of other hams that I feel deprived of when I read a simple "I GOT THE FOX" post. Thanks Jeff.

Here's mine...

I have been selling off the estate of my late and dear friend Heinz, WD8QVD. Heinz had no QRP gear (he was quite the DXer - anyone want a Telerex(sp?) Christmas Tree?) and Sunday I had taken some of his stuff to a local swap. One of the items left is a TS-940s.

I had taken the 940 in the shack Monday and was went down there just before the HUNT began. I'd been playing with the radio and its interesting filters when I heard about a bajillion hams calling AA4XX.

Paul had a Big Signal up here in the woods north of Detroit. I wondered if my friend Walt, WB8E was listening on 7.040. I was sure Walt would hear Paul because they have worked several times before.

I went to call WB8E on the USECA repeater (where we meet up during almost every fox hunt) and realized that I had left my 2M HT up in the garage after the Swap Sunday. All I had available was my antique TS-700sp 2M sideband station which has no PL to access the Useca Repeater.

Desperate times call for desperate measures... I swung the mighty M Squared 2M yagi toward Walt, flipped on the *amplifier* and blew several hundred, horizontally polarized, ERP watts the 30 or so miles toward Walts' home.

Walt heard me weakly on his HT and (being fairly bright) realized I was NOT on the repeater, he said to QSY to another machine which luckily for us, had no PL tone, and we began chatting about the fox hunt.

Walt was first to work Paul as he snuck in his call while *I* thought he was listening to my comments on the repeater. Walt enjoyed the fact that Paul remembered his name and made a big deal about how Paul was a "personal friend of mine."

Well, them are fightin' words so *I* tossed out my call and AA4XX came back with a comment regarding my "BIG SIGNAL" and a 589 report, this was good enough for me as Walt got a measly 559 out of his TS-50 at 5W. Paul also kind-a remembered my call, but needed a gentle reminder.

Fox Hunting is Fun, and it's GOOD for you.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Dale Hall <102603.30@compuserve.com>
Subject: [882] FOX Monday
Message-ID: <951205051632_102603.30_HHU60-1@CompuServe.COM>

Paul, you were unbelievably W E A K! I thought I would miss you for sure. Sometimes the sig faded into NOTHING. At about 2 minutes till quitting time Your sig started coming up to almost readable. I thought I had nothing to lose so I jumped in. HOW DID YOU EVER HEAR ME? Thanks.

de Dale KB0WZ #148
(RST 148=sendng is lousy, signal is so-so, and you got hum.)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [922] FS : OHR SPIRIT - 30 METER TRANSCIEVER
Message-ID: <9512051706.AA13124@gvlf6-a>

OHR SPIRIT 30 METER CW TRANSCEIVER

Fully assembled, aligned, working.
Includes the optional OHR keyer
10.100 - 10.150 coverage
Superhet receiver w/AGC, RIT, crystal + audio filters
5 watts output w/QSK, sidetone
Full original documentation.

Original cost with keyer in kit form was \$210.

Yours for \$150 fully assembled - ready to go (plus COD shipping)

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [917] Galileo Probe Battery Info
Message-ID: <199512051734.KAA11294@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

The following information was contained in today's NASA/JPL technical press release (Ron Baalke) regarding the Galileo mission I thought some of you might find interesting.

The GALILEO PROBE BATTERIES are an array of lithium-sulphur dioxide D-cells delivering 39v at 21AH (amp-hours) at launch in October 1989. These batteries have not been used in the six years since launch. The Galileo probe was powered up and the batteries measured 39v at 20AH, losing about 1AH in its 6-years of frigid shelf life. During the probe launch into the Jovian atmosphere Dec. 7th, all science equipment and transmitters will be turned on. During the "plunge," the probe will use about 1AH every 7 minutes during its one-hour mission in the upper atmosphere ... thus consuming about 18AH. At that time, most all science equipment will be powered down except pressure and heat detectors and the transmitter. The remaining 2AH are expected to power this "QRP mode" probe for about another 70 minutes. Assuming of course, the probe will survive that long. By this time, the probe will have deployed its parachute and exposed to over 30bars of pressure.

Deploying the parachute, heat shields and a few other probe tasks are powered from dedicated "pyrotechnic" batteries. These are chemical charges switched on by the main on-board controller, whose heat produces large amounts of currents for brief periods.

NASA/JPL has maintained several sets of identical batteries in an environment similar to the spacecraft since Oct. 1989 to monitor the shelf-life performance. Last week, one of these sets of batteries were used as a load test, which verified the batteries will still power the probe for the hour mission with 2AH remaining. Another set will be discharged at the same time as the probe launch to compare discharge rates between those on earth and those in the probe.

ObQRP: What are they gonna do with all those neat Lithium batteries after the probe launch? Any QRP-L members in the Pasadena/Gold Stone area? A battery pack that only loses 5% of its power after 6 years of shelf life would be ideal for my QRP operating habits!

Paul NA5N (QRP-L #38)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: jlowman@iepsnet.com (Jim Lowman)
Subject: [934] Got my number...finally!
Message-ID: <199512052256.RAA74490@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

I'm not exactly sure what I was doing wrong, but several requests for a QRP-L number came back with errors.

What a difference a week makes. At the time I first requested a number, there were only five members with numbers. Instead of being #6, I am now #248. Oh, well...
It's a nice sequence of powers of two, if nothing else. :-}

73 de KF6CR - Jim

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Tom_Jennings <jennings@eng16.rochny.uspra.abb.com>
Subject: [923] Great Fox Signal
Message-ID: <9512051524.AA22051@nms1.abb.com>

Hi,
Paul, aa4xx had a great signal in Western New York (Rochester area) last night 599. I worked him with my power meter indicating no movement and got a 559 with my 40m 1/4 wave vert.

73,
Tom, kv2x

--

Thomas J. Jennings | Tel: (716) 273 7071
Senior Engineer | Fax: (716) 273 7262
ABB Industrial Systems Inc. |
Post Office Box 22685 |
Rochester, New York 14692-2685

Internet: jennings@jennings.rochny.uspra.abb.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: eleon@msu.edu (Dr. Edgar Leon)
Subject: [911] Help with Microphone

Message-ID: <acea2e1702021004e82a@[204.22.210.53]>

Hi Guys:

I hate to say that I've been trying to get rid of a noise from a General Electric microphone but with no success. It has a little amplifier inside whic Iam trying to trouble shoot.

I already changed the transistor and one of the electrolytic capacitors. Any suggestions?

Edgar WR8Z

Edgar Leon

eleon@msu.edu

Michigan Department of Education

Migrant Education Consultant

(517)373-4582 Fax:(517)373-4589

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: "John F. Jarvis" <jfj@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>

Subject: [908] Holiday Spirits Sprint

Message-ID: <199512051505.KAA12400@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>

QRP-L Gang:

Contrary to some reports, I found the conditions reasonably good:

80M 12 SPC

40M 15 SPC

20M 14 SPC

15M 0 SPC (oh for those bonus points) I did listen and call on 15 for a few minutes starting 2000Z and 2100Z. Heard nothing and wasn't answered.

Equipment: HW-9 (5W) with added 400Hz xtal filter, 131 ft dipole at 40 ft fed by 450 ohm twin lead. Tuner is the KH6CP "Balanced QRP Transmatch" from the '90 Handbook. This tuner puts the balun before the matching network thus it sees constant impedance when the antenna is matched. I'm quite pleased with the combo. It is at least as good as the G5RV on 40/20/17 and far superior on 80/30M.

63 QSOs: 282 points total score including 15000 bonus points = 95934

Managed all 4 hours on the air (but did make the XYL a little grumpy).

Worked hp1ac and ve4aki for my only DX contacts. (also CA on 40M)

This is a personal best in a Sprint. Given wa9pwp's score perhaps I can garner another second.

72/73 John KE2WB

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
 From: "Bob White" <Bob_White@CCMAIL.AEROSYS.LORAL.COM>
 Subject: [916] Holiday Sprint Results W03B
 Message-ID: <9511058181.AA818190123@CCMAIL.AEROSYS.LORAL.COM>

Callsign: W03B

Exchange: W03B RST MD 200mw

date mm/dd/yyyy	band	UTC time	callsign	sent		received				
				rst	QTH	nr	rst	QTH	nr	new pts
12/03/1995	40CW	2020	AA10C	569	MD	00001	449	NH	2W	* 30
12/03/1995	40CW	2024	KN1H	579	MD	00002	579	NH	4937	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2026	K2LGJ	559	MD	00003	559	NY	6397	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2029	AA2WJ	559	MD	00004	559	NY	8826	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2036	N9DD	559	MD	00005	449	IN	8081	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2038	AC4QX	569	MD	00006	559	NC	7955	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2040	K1TAV	559	MD	00007	589	CT	2W	* 30
12/03/1995	40CW	2043	AA2PF	559	MD	00008	559	NY	5785	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2105	AE4IC	449	MD	00009	559	NC	1961	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2117	W9NIP	559	MD	00010	559	MI	8354	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2126	VE2BLX	559	MD	00011	559	QU	6661	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2127	K1GDH	559	MD	00012	559	MA	6899	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2133	KC4K	599	MD	00013	599	PA	6113	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2143	NU2G	599	MD	00014	599	NY	7195	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2150	WB3GCK	559	MD	00015	549	PA	8260	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2152	AD4ZE	569	MD	00016	559	NC	8251	11
12/03/1995	40CW	2205	WA0RPI	559	MD	00017	599	MN	6846	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2219	N2YUF	559	MD	00018	559	NJ	8710	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2225	KF0N	539	MD	00019	449	IA	6336	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2241	KE4AGT	449	MD	00020	439	AL	3604	* 11
12/03/1995	40CW	2301	WA9PWP	559	MD	00021	339	WI	7291	* 11

na9.23 TOTALS THIS PAGE QSOs: 21 MULTs: 14 PTs: 269

QRP+ @ 200mw Four Wavelength Skyloop @ 55 feet.
 Zero bonus points.
 Total Score for 40 meter single band entry 20,790

72,
 Bob W03B QRP-1 #195 WASTP 48.28W

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
 From: Bing WB2SXN <ADMINH10%CLVM.BITNET@CUNYVM.CUNY.EDU>

Subject: [893] HW8 Handbook

Message-ID: <"omnigate.c.149:05.11.95.14.05.37"@clarkson.edu>

After selling my HW8 Handbook on the net i got many requests for info about the book - it has most of the published mods for the HW7, HW8 and HW9 and i think it is well worth the \$11 - you can purchase it thru

WB8VGE

Mike Bryce

2225 Mayflower NW

Massillon, OH 44647

73 Bing WB2SXN

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>

Subject: [904] mis-aligned text :-(

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512050941.A17743-01000000@sparky>

Hi all....some of us might have to look at the line/word processor we are using to send messages up to qrp-1....I have noticed lately that there are more than a few messages on the board that have miss-aligned ends...

"This results in lines that are longer for the first one and shorter for the second one....this has little significant result except that it means longer files and less readable text, except when you want to put up an ascii diagram and then it really screws things up!"

So please everyone, check your server for the number of characters per line it will accept and adjust your word or text processor accordingly so we all will be able to read your fine diagrams!

TtFn....Stan T.M. VE7 SKT QRP-L #34

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: Myron China <chim@gwl.com>

Subject: [913] monday night fox

Message-ID: <199512051508.AA25522@gp-sparc56.gwl.com>

i want to thank paul (aa4xx) for hanging in there last night on 7.110.
some inconsiderate person was stomping on the freq for most of the hunt,
but finally heard paul down in the mud towards the end. had the af gain
cranked at max on the hw9. the 40m loop works! thanks, paul.

73,
myron

Myron China (KB0LMQ) chim@gwl.com
ISIS Oracle Database Administrator Ph:(303)689-3981
Great-West Life Assurance Co. Fax:(303)689-4850
Englewood, CO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: John_Foote_at_HDN-BCSE@ccgate.ml.nec.com
Subject: [939] Need advance: an easily portable 40 m antenna
Message-ID: <9511058182.AA818224094@mvlsmtt.ccgate.ml.nec.com>

I'm going to take my Alinco DX-70, a small key, and a small lead acid
battery on a company trip this weekend.

How can I make up an antenna to operate on 40 m cw in my Motel room at
night, and expect to make a few contacts?

What would work, be easy to put up in the room (whatever that means)
and stash in the toolbox the Alinco and the battery are going in?

Thanks in advance for wisdom and advice anyone can offer.

72 de KR4GL
John Foote

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: william.redfearn.cmwdt01@nt.com
Subject: [884] Need Wilderness Radio info
Message-ID: <"23802 Mon Dec 4 12:37:28 1995"@nt.com>

I need the address and phone number for Wilderness Radio.

I want to get a KC-1 for my OHR-400 and I've mis-placed the info.

73 - Dave.

=====
Dave Redfearn, Sr RF Systems Engineer NORTEL RTP, NC.
ph.(919) 992-3925 email: william.redfearn.cmwd1r01@nt.com
qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [892] number
Message-ID: <9512051349.AA03910@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Well, I guess I will be one of the few on the list with out a number.
After attempting to get one on Friday, there is still no reply
to the request - maybe the system doesn't work if one is in digest
mode?
Ray, W5XE

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [927] Numbers
Message-ID: <3F98321D9@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

All right, I guess I missed something. How do I find out my qrp-1
number?? I have a New England number. I have a Northwest number.
I have a Michigan number. I assume I have a NorCal number although I
have never been told what it is. So, how do I find out my number
here??

Speaking of the Northwest group, has there been a newsletter since
June?? If so, I have not seen it.

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [897] Omni VI VS Norcal 40
Message-ID: <01HYFWTG389K94GAKJ@tntech.edu>

It was late in the evening after a long day of work, and then a longer day of job 2. I came home, changed out of my work clothes.. took care of mandatory chores and sat down for a while.

As I began to relax.. drifting.. drifting..drifting, relaxing, letting go of the day and all its worries, letting my mind wonder as it would, thinking about this and that and relaxing... ever so calm, ever so peaceful..feeling safe and secure

then it happened.. all of a sudden the image drifted into my subconscious.. the image of the email I had printed out and brought home.. the image that had that scribble called print on it.. and it gave me a message.. the message it gave to me compelled me to rise out of my relaxed state and fly out of the room into the ham shack.

The clock had just gone past 9:00pm my time.. to 9:01.. I am already one minute late for the Fox hunt.. and I am still awake.. so there is still that remote possibility of hunting down that wiley rascal.

I enter the shack at a full run.. plug in the Omni VI and connect the antenna.. throw the power switches on and go immediately to 7.040.. noise.. and some loud signals ..but no fox.. try 7.110 and set the memory to 7.040 so I can easily switch back.. no fox hanging out in Novice land.. go back to 7.040... tune around and think I hear someone answering, maybe calling, doing something with AA4XX.. sounds like Paul is out there foxing away.. wait patiently.. yes there is AA4XX and then after about another 4 minutes hear about 1,000 calling him.. I wait then call him.. using full power (4.8 watts).. no luck.. I try again and again.. no luck.. he is 579 and easily getting through the QRM..

I finally make a desperate move.. I turn off the Omni and turn on my Wilderness Norcal.. and since I have the KC1 installed.. I easily find AA4XX in a matter of seconds..and not only do I find him.. his signal seems to be much more clear .. I had the 250 filter on in the Omni because of all the noise..HMMM.. start to wonder.. give AA4XX a shout.. he comes back first time.. I give him the exchange. he comes back .. he is a 579.. I am a 449 (or so I remember)... I am now using about 1.7 watts into a Gap vertical.. He asks my name and QTH and gets it all the first time.

Anyone want to buy an Omni VI?

PS>. can't wait to do Cascade foxing

72,
Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: edward.f.burke@bangate1.TEK.COM
Subject: [941] Peaking Tuned Circuits with Trimmer Capacitors
Message-ID: <vines.iE39+cnDlkA@bangate2.tek.com>

With the Holiday Season approaching, you QRP enthusiasts may be planning to build something. So here is a helpful hint. It may have already been communicated, or maybe it is obvious to some of you but here goes....

Trimmer capacitors, such as the miniature types used in the Norcal40, Sierra and Cascade, have a capacitance profile that looks approximately like a saw-tooth waveform, with one "tooth" per revolution. That is, if you take a 5pF to 40pF trimmer and set it at its minimum capacitance (5 pF), and then turn the adjusting slot, it will more or less linearly increase to its maximum value (40 pF) at 180 degrees of rotation, and then linearly decrease back to the minimum at 360 degrees.

So why is this important?

Well, when you peak up a tuned circuit which is within range for resonance you should see two peaks for every rotation of the trimmer, not one!

Counting two peaks is a pretty good indication that things are working properly, and getting only one probably means that the inductor is somehow the wrong value for the frequency involved.

Consider a concrete example. Suppose you have correctly wound a toroid for 5 Mhz such that it will resonate with 20 pF. When you rotate the 5 to 40 pF trimmer mentioned above, it will pass through 20 pF twice, so you will get two maxima.

Now imagine that you have made a winding mistake and have produced a toroid which needs 50 pF to resonate. When you try to adjust the trimmer cap it cannot yield more than 40 pF, so it will not really resonate, but you may get an relative peak indication at 40; "I'm not at resonance boss, but I'm doing the best I can".

Counting peaks is a pretty good technique when aligning tuned circuits.

Enjoy, and best 73's

Ed KI7KW

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: drichff@nando.net
Subject: [930] QRP Question
Message-ID: <9512052057.AA28806@nando.net.nando.net>

I just signed on to this mailing list a few days ago and if this question is answered in any faq list I apologize. Can anyone tell me where I can find information on the various qrp kits or rigs available? I have not seen much in my area of NC. Most guys that I know of thing more power is better. Any help getting me started would be appreciated. I have a Kenwood ts-430 now but would like to try qrp.

Dwayne

drichff@nando.net

Firefighter/EMT
Appalachian Trail Hiker
Fire Patch Trader
Ham KC4ADW Tech +
Life is about the Journey not just the destination

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: John_Foote_at_HDN-BCSE@ccgate.ml.nec.com
Subject: [901] QRP-L Calling freq. 30 m
Message-ID: <9511048181.AA818127279@mvlsmtg.ccgate.ml.nec.com>

I spent some time calling CQ at 10.123 MHz this weekend, as I did several days ago. No answer.

Is this still an official hang-out place for members of the list? The DX seems to stay down below 10.105 most of the time.

72 de KR4GL
John Foote

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: AA3MD@aol.com
Subject: [926] S&S Eng. TAC1
Message-ID: <951205142346_125651490@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Anyone have any first-hand knowledge of S&S's TAC1? Mike, WA8MCQ wrote an interesting "prototype sighting" last April, but was unable to comment on the rig's performance.

Listened for the FOX last night ... heard a few stations in persuit, but no fox. What does that say for a TS 850 and Windom @ 85 Ft.? Guess I need a real radio! Norcal 40A? Explorer II? or TAC1? Decisions Decisions Decisions!!

Been on the list for about two weeks ... love it! This should be the "Mensa Radio List" ...
You guys are SMART!!!!!!

Thanks,
Craig, AA3MD Washington, D.C.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [933] Sierra bare boards
Message-ID: <v02130520acea76a8297b@[199.170.106.28]>

Brad, the Sierra boards are made by DaVila, a PCB house not far from where I work in Palo Alto, CA. The only boards made by FAR were the first three NorCal prototype units that I had made in 1993. Those are completely obsolete.

The reason Wilderness radio can't get the Sierra PC boards made at FAR is because they're pretty complicated boards that use processes that FAR can't handle. Not that I'm down on FAR--Fred does nice, quick work on simple single-sided boards. But the Sierra boards are:

- double sided
- plated through
- fine-line silkscreened
- have different front and back solder masks to handle crystal and PA transistor insulation requirements
- have tight tolerances to fit the custom cabinet

and as if that weren't enough,

- the band modules are gold-plated to provide reliable

contact with the edge connector for repeated insertion/
extraction cycles. (I've done it thousands of times
on my prototypes.)

(By the way, it took just about all my nights and weekends for a month to
get all 10 layers of artwork just right, and another day to produce all the
Gerber files for manufacturing. It's a lot of work!)

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: bmitchel@cba.Kodak.COM (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [895] Sierra Bare Boards Available
Message-ID: <9512051414.AA26587@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

?

Were the bare boards for the Sierra ever available or are they
>From FAR?
73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [918] Solar Panel Has Sold
Message-ID: <951205135223_45238140@emout06.mail.aol.com>

The solar panel listed for sale has sold.

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [885] Sprint
Message-ID: <95120500460211@sescva.esc.edu>

I had a good time (as always) on the Sprint. I would like to meet WA0RPI and find out what kind of antenna he is using. Real strong sigs on 20 meters here on Long Island. Made a total of 41 contacts, 17 on 80 meters, 12 on a noisy 40 meters, and 12 on 20 meters for a total of 39,200. I guess I owe a lot of short beers to a bunch of guys so here's the deal-- Meet me on Wednesday night at about 8 pm at HOOTERS in East Meadow LI. to collect your winnings. However, RSVP so I know how much money to bring as you all know how CHEAP hams can get. I also owe WA3YON a beer from the sweeps. I will be kicked off this service any day so please reply to PTCANDY@AOL.COM.

Regards,
Peter N2KPY

PS
Don't forget the 10 meter contest this weekend.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: V\$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [900] strong FOX in WI
Message-ID: <01HYFXPMV94I001J42@hub.qgraph.com>

AA4XX had a big signal into SE. Wis Monday...Almost missed hom because I was looking for a whisper. first fox in 6 weeks....tnx

Brian AE9K

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Wynn C C <wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>
Subject: [936] toroid core sources
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951205184851.26290B-100000@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>

In response to the balun construction post someone pointed out that OHR no longer sells the toroids. Could someone point to some alternate sources? Thanks,

72/73
Clay N4AOX
wyn@ornl.gov

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: walworth@ICSI.Net (Bob Walworth)
Subject: [878] TP
Message-ID: <9512050138.AB25187@ICSI.Net>

and the answer is:

TP= Telephone Pioneer

The annual Telephone Pioneer QSO party is held the 1st weekend of December all bands, both modes.

Telephone Pioneer used to be an employee of anyone of the phone co's with 21 years of service. It has since been dropped down so any with an interest can join.

73/72
de Bob/AK5B
AT&T
Bob Walworth
AK5B
Spring TX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [883] TP
Message-ID: <95120500390060@sescva.esc.edu>

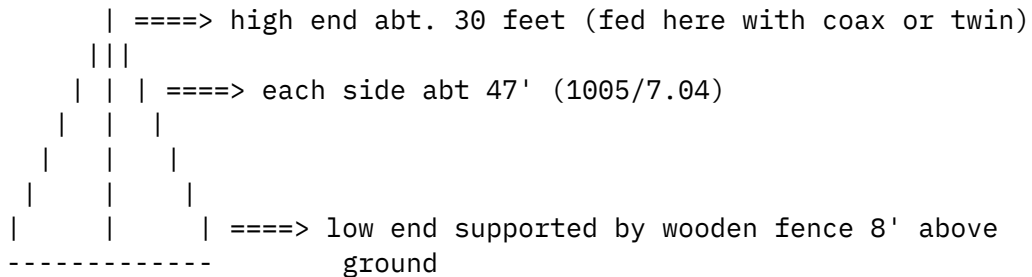
T O I L E T P A P E R

Regards,
Peter N2KPY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [925] VERTICAL ANT IDEAS HELP!!
Message-ID: <9511058181.AA818196328@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Gang: Two quickie antenna questions for you to ponder ===

1. I've seen a Delta Loop antenna mentioned here several times, but I'm not too familiar with its construction. Here's what I had in mind to build for 40 meters:



Is this the basic idea behind the Delta? Is the formula correct?

2. I've wanted to try out the DX possibilities of a vertical ant, but don't want to shell out big bucks for a GAP or similar, only to be disappointed by its performance. Can I just throw up about a 33' piece of wire on a vertical support, attach this to the center lead of coax, create a radial or counterpoise system under the vertical wire and attach the coax shield to it? Is this the basis for a cheap and dirty "experimental, see how I like it, see if it works" vertical system? If so, how many radials are best? How long 1/4, 1/2 wave? For 40 meters, can I get away with less than 33' or so of vertical? In all cases, I'd be using a tuner with the setup.

Thanks for any input to my half-baked ideas!

BTW - You guys are all "Steely-eyed missile men" in my book. (If you don't know this one, check out Apollo 13 over the holidays. One of the best "feel good" movies I've ever seen!! Do yourselves a favor and see it)

72/73 de Dave KK5HA
QRP-L #25

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [906] Where's Danny?
Message-ID: <9512051551.AA15087@garnet.inel.gov>

>

>And hey BTW has Danny re-surfaced yet? My parts stock is dwindling.

>

The latest scuttle-butt is that Danny (of Dan's Small Parts) is "busten' rocks" and won't be back into circulation until April '96. IRS problems, maybe?!? Perhaps just a nasty rumor... anyway, you didn't hear it from me!!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [889] yep, it does work!!
Message-ID: <0c4398d0@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

well, last night after work i fired up my newly finished swl
4030 on 30 meters. after a few unsucessfull cqs i tuned
around and heard cq de wb4gld fairly strong. he answered me
on my first call. i gesss the little flicker on my tuner
really did mean rf. i havent had such a shaky fist since june
13 1977 when w2bxb hung in there with me and gave me my
first ever qso. (thanks bill) 1.5 watts and my indoor dipole
was what i used and it was very exiting.
so i guess this means that i'm a qrp er.
73
barry (wb1edi)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [931] Re: 160M QRP
Message-ID: <9512052108.AA21605@garnet.inel.gov>

>But Larry, you didn't tell us about your 160m antenna! I'm in a 'patio'
>home and lot is about 50' wide and 110 deep (at best). I am putting out
>about 300' of horizontal loop at an average height of about 20' and
>feeding it with 450 ohm line. Don't know if it'll do much on 160m but
>I'll give it a try. It'll have to beat my 70' zepp fed with 300 ohm!

>

>Tim AB5OU

>

I'm using a 47' tall GAP vertical -- it would easily fit on your lot (your neighbors might not like it tho...). However, the guy that beat the pants off me was using a loop very similar to the one you describe (but maybe a little higher; I think at least two corners are at about 30 feet) on a lot about the size of yours -- so your loop should work on 160.

When I lived in New England, I had a 1/4 wave 160M sloolper fed against the rain gutter on my house (all joints well bonded!). It was 18 feet above the ground on the feed end and about 6 feet at the far end, and I managed to work all over the northeast (granted, not a very large area compared to out west here...).

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: dwebster@netcom.com (Dennis Webster)
Subject: [937] Re: 30M Explorer II
Message-ID: <199512060032.QAA22838@netcom3.netcom.com>

>
> Has anyone received their 30M kit yet?? Last I heard, OHR was waiting for
> some crystals or something.

>
> 72, Larry.

>
>
I talked to Dick today, and he is still waiting on the crystals. He thinks the kits should go out at the end of the week.

--

```
-----
|Dennis Webster WJ6H/QRP          * LESS IS MORE! *|
|dwebster@netcom.com              |
|_____|
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [899] Re: 4:1 QRP Balun Part 1 of 2
Message-ID: <199512051453.IAA28447@alice.adsnet.com>

>4:1 balun for QRP (Ruthroff Voltage Balun) Part 1 of 2

>
>Material:
>
>(2) T-80-2 Iron Powder Toroids, Red. (Oak Hills Research, 10 for \$3.60)
>
<
<lots of stuff deleted to save bandwidth>

Unless Dick has recently changed his mind, OHR no longer sells parts other than those needed to repair their kits.

73 de Allen, K9DZE

=====
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: W3HMS@aol.com
Subject: [880] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <951204230702_125150205@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Duane.....I just got some RS comm phones and they seem very much like the several RS stereo phones I have used for some time though the comm phones are much less costly. I hope another will have more dramatic views for you. 73, John

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [938] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <951205201358_45673600@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-04 15:59:14 EST, dandersn@ix.netcom.com (Duane Anderson) writes:

>I know there was some discussion about a week ago on the subject of proper
>and workable headphones here, but when you get a little older the memory
>fades a bit (hi hi). Anyway, the question is this:
>Did someone say the Radio Shack headphones they have for communication work,
>(mono) is good to use or not? I have a set of stereo headphones and wonder
>if they will not be as good as other ones. Maybe that is the reason Im
>having a bit of a hard time hearing a lot of other stations.

>
>Anyway, any help would be appreciated on this re-hash of an old subject.
>
>72/73,
>Duane, KJ7HO
>QRP-L 164

I have used R/S cheapie headphones for QRP and ham work. They are lightweight and deliver enough audio. Stereo phones will also work but you may have to modify them at the plug or jack so that they are mono (both phones work). I have also seen lightweight "walkman" style headphones which fold in the middle for storage.

The main thing is you don't need "Communications Headphones" for ham work. Lightweight and cheap phones will also work. Get what works and is most comfortable.

Someone asked about the impedance. Many phones are fifty to a hundred or so ohms. Will that work on an eight ohm receiver? Yes, and it works out nicely. With the speaker on at a room-filling level, you don't want to put on the phones and have your ears blown off. The higher impedance is a lighter load for the audio amp and a lower volume. Impedance matching purists should purchase an audio SWR meter and audio transmatch if they are concerned ;-)

High fidelity does not matter. The SSB audio band is 200-2200 Hz and CW (for most of us) is 400-900 Hz. What does matter is that the phones do not exhibit ringing or resonance on CW notes.

At five to fifteen dollars, we can afford to experiment with cheapie phones, or replace them if someone's QRO behind sits on them.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [940] Re: Acceptable Headphones for QRP work
Message-ID: <199512060209.TAA01877@usr2.primenet.com>

At 08:17 PM 12/5/95 EST, JCoote@aol.com wrote:

>I have used R/S cheapie headphones for QRP and ham work. They are
>lightweight and deliver enough audio. Stereo phones will also work but you
>may have to modify them at the plug or jack so that they are mono (both
>phones work). I have also seen lightweight "walkman" style headphones which

>fold in the middle for storage.
>

Earlier in the week someone posted a note that RS had the Optima 44 phones on sale. I picked a set up, and like them. Stereo plug (for the NorCal 40A) light weight, and comfortable leather-like (vinyl) pads. For 12 bux or so, they work well.

72, de Roger

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [912] Re: FAR boards and other stuff
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951205085846.1930A-100000@ume>

Another lesson learned by myself.
After you check out the board, check out the pictorial if supplied.
My harmonic but together his first kit (a code practice amp and audio amp) recently. He placed the parts in correctly, including polarity according to the pictorial. He did the (supervised) soldering with only one solder bridge. Simple circuit (3 transistors, on 386 amp).
It did not work. Some signal tracing confirmed the ic worked but not the oscillator. Finally, I realized the transistors were in backwards.....as depicted in the pictorial. Swithced them around to work like the schematic indicated an presto.....audio tone!

Reminds me of the saying about how you can't believe it just because you read it. ;-)

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)	*	VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor	*	NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary	*	"Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVBX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [888] Re: feedline transformation
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951205064918.543751389C-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On Mon, 4 Dec 1995, Mike Robinson wrote:
> How much ladder line can cause the mismatch?

> At what point does the 450ohm have an effect?
>
> 10 feet? 5 feet? 6 inches? 2 inches?
>
> There must be a minimum at which the 450ohm impedance is no
> longer a factor.
Mike:

Theoretically, any length of line >0 will produce a transformation effect. For any length of line that is very short, the amount of transformation will vary with the load connection (antenna feedpoint) values. The greater the mismatch of R_{ant} to $R_{feedline}$, the more rapid the transformation. The higher the X at the connection, the more rapid the transformation. (Remember, swr between load and this feedline remains constant or very very slightly decreases depending upon the losses in the line, but is negligible for the very short case at hand.) The higher the frequency, the more rapid the transformation of values. Even those straight wire connections at the antenna feedpoint between the line connector and the antenna element are a form of feedline and effect a small amount of transformation--although largely negligible below VHF.

In later versions of HAMCALC by VE3ERP, there is a program that calculates E , I , X , and R along a transmission line for any set of values you enter for the antenna feedpoint. You can get a chart for every 5 degrees from 0 to 180 degrees to see the transformation. The R and X calculations are independent of the E and I , so even if you put arbitrary placeholders in the E and I slots, you can watch the transformation along a 450 line by plugging, let's say, 70 R and 0 X dipole values into the initial inputs and specifying a 450-ohm line. It is interesting to watch various combinations of feedpoint values and line Z_0 s. I wrote the program a few years ago to resolve some phase-line questions and gave it to Murph for his collection.

Hope this heads you in a useful direction.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 05-Dec-1995 1152" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [921] re: Need CA3160 Op Amp
Message-ID: <9512051656.AA11352@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

From: US4RMC::"bcdlr@slip.net" "MAIL-11 Daemon" 3-DEC-1995 23:30:15.01
To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

CC:

Subj: Need CA3160 Op Amp

> Does anybody have a CA3160 op amp they would be willing to sell me. I can't
> Dan Reynolds, bcdlr@slip.net, KB9JLO

Dan,

Mouser sells them... cat. no. 570-CA3160AE, \$1.86, made by Harris.

1 (800) 34MOUSE

=====
Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>

Subject: [942] Re: Need Wilderness Radio info

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951205181531.3462C-1000000@dt1.datatamers.com>

William,

Here it is:

Wilderness Radio

P.O. Box 734

Los Altos, CA 94023-0734

'Phone (415) 494-3806

Owner: Bob Dyer

I have no connection... etc. 72, Dave, W6EMD

On Tue, 5 Dec 1995 william.redfearn.cmwd01@nt.com wrote:

> I need the address and phone number for Wilderness Radio.

>

> I want to get a KC-1 for my OHR-400 and I've mis-placed the info.

>

> 73 - Dave.

>

> =====

> Dave Redfearn, Sr RF Systems Engineer NORTEL RTP, NC.

> ph.(919) 992-3925 email: william.redfearn.cmwd01@nt.com

> qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

>

> All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.

>
>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [932] re: NorCal 40A final not working -- advice?
Message-ID: <v0213051facea766d1b92@[199.170.106.28]>

Stephen, sounds to me like you're just not getting enough drive into the final. 3V P-P may not be quite enough. If that's the case, re-check the signal voltages leading up to that point (as given in the manual). You may have a marginal transistor at Q5 or Q6, or the wrong level from the VFO or crystal oscillator into the TX mixer, etc. I like to see 5 to 7V p-p at the base of the PA.

If you need parts, call Bob Dyer at 415-494-3806.

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Ed DeBuvitz <edeb@indirect.com>
Subject: [891] Re: PS polarity fix
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD/.3.91.951205064212.22651A-1000000@bud.indirect.com>

It's amazing! Here I just reversed polarized (by accident of course) the power to my (snif) lovely little HW 9 and, now it sits (sniff sniff) in a state of suspended animation, when I see all this info in how to protect it from happening again. I would like some advice on how far back down the circuit to go. Has anyone ever experienced this and should I just go ahead and replace all the transistors and ic's and all or do you think it just got the first string. A friend did the same to an Argo 509 a few years ago and it only took out control circuit devices.

What you guys think?

Thanks in advance.

Ed W5TTE now chasing the fox. Will get him one day!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: william.redfearn.cmwdrr01@nt.com

Subject: [879] re:QRP rigs and Ten-Tec 6m xvtr (how bout 2m???)
Message-ID: <"16889 Mon Dec 4 11:34:56 1995"@nt.com>

I'd rather see a Ten-Tec 15M to 2M tranverter. Then I could use my
15M mode K transmitter as a 2M mode A transmitter too.
73 - Dave.

=====
Dave Redfearn, Sr RF Systems Engineer NORTEL RTP, NC.
ph.(919) 992-3925 email: william.redfearn.cmwd101@nt.com
qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 05-Dec-1995 1215" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [903] re: QRP+ It could happen to you
Message-ID: <9512051726.AA13275@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> I plugged the power cord into the back of the QRP+ and had the
> male plug just a little crooked and touched the side of the power
> plug on the rig.
> POOF!!
> No more receiver!

Yah, RCA phono-type jacks are a really bad idea for power connection. I've
been using the RatShack 20A Molex-type connectors that are keyed like:

```
+-----+
!           \
!  /\      /\  \
!  \/      \/  /
!           /
+-----+
```

for all my 12V power supplies, batteries, and equipment to run off of them.
No worries with these so far. I don't think the shells will even press
together reversed. I even made a cigarette-lighter-to-Molex adaptor for
running things in the car.

BTW, I usually put the diode/fuse protection circuit in my radios just in
case, but I'd rather not have to test it!

Oh yah, this idea is right out of QST. Someone proposed a 12V standard
connector about a year ago. They picked the RatShack 12A Molex-type, for
reasons unknown. You need about 20A to run a 100W radio, so why limit

yourself?

```
=====
Tom Randolph  N100Q  NE-QRP 419  QRP-L 87  ARRL      randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [902] RE: QRP+ Polarity Reversal
Message-ID: <9512051551.AA15083@garnet.inel.gov>

On 4 Dec 1995 Ernie Gregoire wrote:

>I plugged the power cord into the back of the QRP+ and had the
>male plug just a little crooked and touched the side of the power
>plug on the rig.
>
>POOF!!
>
>No more receiver!
>
>The antenna was connected at the time. The fuse did blow, but did not
>protect the rig. I know that this same thing happened to someone else
>too but I don't remember who. And he reported it here at QRP-L. The rig is
>now earning frequent flyer miles to Gig Harbor. When I get it back I'm going
>to change the plug to a pig tail power connection that is plastic and keyed.
>No reversals that way!
>

The QRP+ *IS* protected from polarity reversal by a diode to ground after the fuse. Unless you replaced the fuse with a 10A jobbie thus probably blowing the protection diode, this scheme should protect the rig OK. Anyway, I really don't see how you could have reversed the polarity in the manner you described. If the inside of the plug touched the ground on the connector, then +V should have gone to ground which would have shorted the power supply (I have done that a few times... lesson learned: NEVER connect power cables with the power supply on!).

Most likely you experienced the same problem that I had with my QRP+ -- static discharges from the antenna blowing the input mixer and/or the output FET. Another lesson learned is to *ALWAYS* disconnect the antenna when the QRP+ is not in use. Back-to-back diodes across the receiver mixer input will help, but not completely eliminate the possibility of a discharge from the antenna doing serious damage to this rig.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [935] RE: QRP+ Polarity Reversal
Message-ID: <199512052231.WAA06153@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Larry et.al.,

One thing that some people do is to put something like a 4.7K resistor across the antenna input leads to provide a path to ground to drain off static charges that accumulate. It shouldn't effect the effeciency of the antenna.

I seem to remember that some MFJ tuners do this internally, but then again I may be wrong again.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: Frank G3YCC <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [910] Re: Raleigh, NC
Message-ID: <shhePEAMxIxwEwW7@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Thanks to all who have replied to my request and I apologise that I was given the incorrect spelling of RALEIGH, NC! I will be answering those in person and will be sending full details of what the event is about in a day or two's time.

73

--

Frank G3YCC

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "Timothy J. Pettibone" <tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>
Subject: [914] Re: TP
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.951205084320.104604A-100000@hector>

No, no, it stand for -

Tim Pettibone!

Tim AB50U

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [944] Re: VERTICAL ANT IDEAS HELP!!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951205183438.3462E-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Dave,

Don't feed the delta loop at the top! Feed it a quarter wavelength down from the top with balanced line, or at a bottom corner with coax. If you elect the corner feed, a good match can be had by putting a one-quarter wavelength (electrical, taking velocity factor into account) piece of 75-Ohm coax between the corner and your 50-Ohm feedline. That corner-feeding method will render the ant a one-bander. It will also give you mixed polarization. The quarter-wavelength-down scheme is best for DX (low-angle, vertical radiation).

72, Dave, W6EMD NorCal #339, No QRP-L # (why do I need one?)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [877] Re: Whiterook mini-paddles as seen at Norcal meeting
Message-ID: <199512050333.UAA04496@saguaro.netwest.com>

>A lot of people where asking about these paddles at the norcal
>meeting, so the information once more is:

>

>

>Whiterook Products Co.

>309 S. Brookshire Ave.

>Ventura, Ca 93003

>Tel 805-339-0702

>

I think that they both cost \$9.95 (postpaid) now.

>Cost of the MK-22 Pocket Mini-Key is 8.95

>Cost of the MK-44 Picket mini-Keyer Paddle is 9.95

>

>73 de dave, n9uxu

>

>

>

>

```
|-----|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ |
| QRP-L #179 |
|-----|
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Dec 6 03:12:00 1995

From: Gene Marshall <genem@hpswtgm.cup.hp.com>

Subject: [907] Re: [861] NorCal 40A - Some observations

Message-ID: <9512051507.AA10991@hpswtgm.cup.hp.com>

Larry,

I have added an SWR indicator using two LED's as per a QST article last May
or so...

I also build one of these for the NC40. Works great! Just curious: were
you able to mount in inside the rig? I thought it might get too tight so
I'm building it into a separate box with a small antenna tuner.

73,

Gene

--

```
+-----+
|Gene Marshall          \- \- \          email: genem@cup.hp.com |
|Hewlett Packard Co., MS 42UN      |          aa6iy@ix.netcom.com |
|Software Technology Center (STC)   | ___o          Tel: 408/447-5282 |
|11000 Wolfe Road           L^ \<._          Fax: 408/447-5039 |
|Cupertino, CA 95014         ( )/ ( )          AA6IY@N6LDL.CA.USA.N/A |
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